

REMARKS

Favorable reconsideration of this application, as presently amended and in light of the following discussion, is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-19 are currently pending. Claims 1-4, 6, 8, 11-13, and 15-19 have been amended by the present amendment. The changes to the claims are supported by the originally filed specification and do not add new matter.

In the outstanding Office Action, Claims 15 and 16 were objected to as containing informalities; Claims 1-3, 6-8, 10-14, and 16-19 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,532,368 to Hild et al. (hereinafter “the ‘368 patent”) in view of U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2002/0110087 to Zelig et al. (hereinafter “the ‘087 application”); Claims 4 and 5 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over the ‘368 patent and the ‘087 application, further in view of U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2003/0018751 to Lee et al. (hereinafter “the ‘751 application”); and Claims 9 and 15 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over the ‘368 patent and the ‘087 application, further in view of U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2005/0175020 to Park et al. (hereinafter “the ‘020 application”).

Applicants respectfully submit that the objections to Claims 15 and 16 are rendered moot by the present amendment to those claims. Claims 15 and 16 have been amended to clarify the acronyms used in those claims. Accordingly, the objections are believed to have been overcome.

Amended Claim 1 is directed to an information processing server that communicates with a terminal device connected to a first network, and is connected to a second network different from the first network, comprising:

a tunnel setter configured to set a tunnel with the terminal device based on an IP address of the second network

assigned in advance to the information processing server and an IP address of the first network assigned to the terminal device;

a reception unit configured to receive a broadcast or multicast packet output from one or more service providing servers on the first network, via the tunnel from the terminal device;

a server finding unit configured to find service providing servers on the first network and services provided by the service providing servers, based on the received broadcasts or multicast packets;

a notification unit configured to notify the terminal device of the services found, via the tunnel or not via the tunnel; and

a data communication unit configured to be responsive to an execution request of the service from the terminal device via the tunnel or not via the tunnel and to transmit a packet addressed to a service providing server providing the service, which has the IP address assigned in advance to the information processing server as a transmission source address, to conduct data communication concerning the service with the service providing server providing the service not via the tunnel.

The changes to Claim 1 are supported by the originally filed specification and do not add new matter.¹

Regarding the rejection of Claim 1 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a), the Office Action asserts that the '368 patent discloses everything in Claim 1 with the exception of the claimed tunnel setter, receiving packets via a tunnel, and the claimed data communication unit, and relies on the '087 application to remedy those deficiencies.

The '368 patent is directed to a method for advertising service offerings in a communication system having two devices, including the steps of transmitting from each device, service information including information about the device, wherein the two devices form an ad hoc group. In particular, the '368 patent discloses a method for introducing a new

¹ See, e.g., page 8, lines 16 and 17; page 8, lines 34 and 35; page 12, lines 28-32; and page 12, line 30 to page 13, line 2 in the specification.

device into an ad hoc wireless local network, and a method for the device to announce its services to another device in the local network.

However, as admitted in the outstanding Office Action, the '368 patent fails to disclose a tunnel setter configured to set a tunnel with the terminal device, as previously recited in Claim 1. Further, as admitted in the outstanding Office Action, the '368 patent fails to disclose a reception unit configured to receive a broadcast or multicast packet output from one or more service providing servers on the first network via the tunnel, as recited in Claim 1. Further, as admitted in the outstanding Office Action, the '368 patent fails to disclose the data communication recited in previous Claim 1.

In particular, Applicants respectfully submit that the '368 patent fails to disclose the reception unit and the data communication unit recited in amended Claim 1. In particular, the '368 patent fails to disclose a reception unit configured to receive a broadcast or multicast packet output from one or more service providing servers on the first network, via the tunnel from the terminal device, as recited in amended Claim 1.

Further, the '368 patent fails to disclose a data communication unit configured to be responsive to an execution request of the surface from the terminal device via the tunnel or not via the tunnel and to transmit a packet address to a service providing server providing the service, which has the IP address assigned in advance to the information processing server as a transmission source address, to conduct data communication concerning the service with the service providing server providing the service not via the tunnel, as recited in amended Claim 1.

The '087 application is directed to a method for establishing a data link service connection for a bi-directional service provided between first and second nodes through a network. In particular, the '087 application discloses that the steps in the method include generating a local index at the first node indicative of a service to be provided, and response

to a request to initiate the service connection; setting a first signaling message containing the index from the first node and service parameters of both of the nodes via the network to the second node; initiating the service connection at the second node in response to the index and the service parameters, and sending a second signaling message via the network to the first node; and upon receiving the second signaling message at the first node, activating the service indicated by the index. Thus, the '087 application discloses a general procedure for setting a tunnel between first and second nodes.

However, Applicants respectfully submit that the '087 application fails to remedy the deficiencies of the '368 patent with respect to the claimed reception unit and the claimed data communication unit. In particular, Applicants respectfully submit that the '087 application fails to disclose (1) a reception unit configured to receive a broadcast or multicast packet output from one or more service providing servers on the first network, via the tunnel from the terminal device, and (2) a data communication unit configured to be responsive to an execution request of the service from the terminal device via the tunnel or not via the tunnel and to transmit a packet address to a service providing server providing the service, which has the IP address assigned in advance to the information processing server as a transmission source address, to conduct data communication concerning the service with the service providing server providing the service not via the tunnel, as recited in amended Claim 1. In particular, Applicants note that Claim 1 requires that the broadcast or multicast packet output from the service providing servers be broadcast via the tunnel from the terminal device, and at the same time data communication is conducted with the service providing server not via the tunnel, as required by Claim 1. Applicants respectfully submit that the '087 application is completely silent regarding these limitations.

Thus, no matter how the teachings of the '368 patent and the '087 application are combined, the combination does not teach or suggest the reception unit configured to receive

a broadcast or multicast packet output from one or more service providing servers via the tunnel from the terminal device, and a data communication unit configured to conduct data communication concerning the service with the service providing server providing the service not via the tunnel, as recited in amended Claim 1. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that the rejection of Claim 1 (and all similarly rejected dependent claims) is rendered moot by the present amendment to Claim 1.

Further, Applicants note that an advantage of the invention recited in Claim 1 is that the information processing server and the second network can find service providing servers in a neighborhood of the terminal device in the first network, while it is still possible to conduct the data communication with the service providing server without an extra processing load being imposed on the terminal device. See page 33, line 30 to page 34, line 8 in the specification.

Independent Claims 11 and 17 recite limitations analogous to the limitations recited in Claim 1, and have been amended in a manner analogous to the amendment to Claim 1. Accordingly, for the reasons stated above for the patentability of Claim 1, Applicants respectfully submit that the rejections of Claims 11 and 17 (and all similarly rejected dependent claims) are rendered moot by the present amendment to Claims 11 and 17.

Regarding the rejection of dependent Claims 4, 5, 9, and 15 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a), Applicants respectfully submit that the '751 and '020 applications fail to remedy the deficiencies of the '368 patent and the '087 application, as discussed above. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that the rejections of dependent Claims 4, 5, 9, and 15 are rendered moot by the present amendment to independent Claims 1 and 11.

Thus, it is respectfully submitted that independent Claims 1, 11, and 17 (and all associated dependent claims) patentably define over any proper combination of the cited references.

Consequently, in view of the present amendment and in light of the above discussion, the outstanding grounds for rejection are believed to have been overcome. The application as amended herewith is believed to be in condition for formal allowance. An early and favorable action to that effect is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

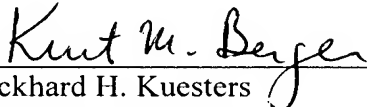
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